(iii) Passenger is required to carry the same proof of identity during the journey on the basis of which he/she has secured the reservation. A mention of this fact is also made on the ticket.

(iv) This proof of identity is checked by ticket checking staff on the train.

(v) No refund is granted on the tickets booked under Tatkal scheme.

Replacement of Agency Appointed for examining rail lines

†768.SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to replace the agency appointed for examining rail lines manufactured in the Bhilai Steel Plant;

(b) if so, by when this replacement is going to take place; and

(c) the details of other norms besides practical experience for the new examining agency, whether prescribed norms are strictly followed, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O.RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The transfer of inspection of rails took place on 01.4.2001.

(c) The new agency "Rail India Technical Economic Services" has long experience of inspection of supplies and have inspected rails imported by Indian Railways from different countries. Rails have to be as per Indian Railways specification T-12-1996 with manufacture as per the approved Quality Assurance Programme.

Conversion from NG to BG of Rail Tracks in the Country

†769. PROF. M. M.AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of those rail tracks in the country where conversion from narrow gauge to broad gauge is going on;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) when work was started on those rail tracks alongwith details of the work completed so far and remaining work;

(c) the amount spent on the work of these rail projects so far alongwith amount remained to be spent; and

(d) by when the said work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) The position regarding ongoing works for conversion from narrow gauge to broad gauge in the country is given as under:—

Railway	Project	Work started in the year	Approx- Ex- Expendi-penditure incrurred upto 31-3-01 (Rs. in cr.)	Balance mate ture to be incurred (Rs. in cr.)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
Central	Miraj-Kuruduwadi Latur and its extension upto Latur Road	1995	105.30	223.72	The work is being progressed in phases. In the Phase-I, gauge conversion of Kuruduwadi Pandharpur has been completed. In rest of the section work is in progress in various stages.
South Eastern	Gondia-Jabalpur including Balaghat-Katangi	1999	16.02	370.28	Final location survey has been completed. In Phase-I, earthwork and bridges on Gondia-Balaghat section has been taken up and is in progress.
	Naupada Gunupur		5.14	61.21	The work has been included in the budget with the proviso that the work would be taken up after obtaining necessary

1	2	3	4	5	6
					clearences, the action for which has been initiated.
	Rupsa-Bangriposi	1997	9.64	70.36	Work is in progress.
	Ranchi-Lohardaga	1998	15.97	169.34	Work is in progress.
	Bankura Damodar River valley	2000	40.45	225.78	Work is in progress.

(d) These works will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources, and operational priority of the line.

Frustration among Scientists

770. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 27th May, 2001 captioned, "Not for the weak hearted" highlighting, *inter-alia* that inventions and discoveries are slowly strangled by red tape and scientists are reduced to despair;

(b) if so, the reaction thereto;

(c) the steps being taken to remove causes of frustration in the scientific fraternity;

(d) whether a National Innovation Policy advocated in certain elite groups is proposed to be formulated to develop and environment where innovation is recognised and nurtured; and

(e) if so, the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government is fully alive to the needs and sensitivities of the scientific community in respect of inventions, discoveries and innovations, and is constantly endeavouring to ensure that spirit of invention and innovation is nurtured and a conducive environment provided. There are a large number of well-designed schemes, programmes and